IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method of producing a [[high]] gloss exterior finish on a hearing aid ear shell, the ear shell having a vent, comprising the steps of:

(a) manufacturing a hearing aid ear shell by stereolithographic processes; then

[[(a)]] (b) coating the ear shell with [[a]] UV-curable substance, creating a new layer of UV-curable substance;

[[(b)]] (c) permitting the UV-curable substance to drain off the ear shell, leaving [[a thin]] an uncured layer on the ear shell;

[[(c)]] (d) exposing the ear shell to UV light to cure the [[thin]] uncured layer;

[[(d)]] (e) removing any excess of the UV-curable substance from step (c); and

[[(e)]] (f) exposing the ear shell to UV light a second ~~time; and~~ time.

~~(f) pre-sizing the ear shell thickness to account for increased thickness added by steps (a) through (e).~~

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the UV-curable substance further comprises a photo-curable polymer.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step [[(d)]] (e) is performed by rinsing the ear shell in an alcohol bath.

5. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 5~~ claim 4, wherein the step [[(d)]] (e) is performed with exposure of the ear shell to ultrasound in the alcohol bath.

6. (currently amended) A method of producing a [[high]] gloss exterior finish on a hearing aid ear shell, the ear shell having a vent, comprising the steps of:

(a) pre-sizing the ear shell thickness to account for increased thickness added by steps ~~(b) through (f)~~ (c) through (g);

~~(b) coating the ear shell with a UV-curable substance;~~

(b) manufacturing a hearing aid ear shell by stereolithographic processes; then

(c) without removing UV-curable substance left on the ear shell, coating the ear shell with a UV-curable substance, creating a new layer of UV-curable substance;

[[(c)]] (d) permitting the UV-curable substance to drain off the ear shell, leaving [[a thin]] an uncured layer on the ear shell;

[[(d)]] (e) exposing the ear shell to UV light to cure the [[thin]] uncured layer;

[[(e)]] (f) removing any excess of the UV-curable substance from step (d); and

[[(f)]] (g) exposing the ear shell to UV light a second time.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the UV-curable substance further comprises a photo-curable polymer.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the step [[(e)]] (f) is performed by rinsing the ear shell in an alcohol bath.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the step [[(e)]] (f) is performed with exposure of the ear shell to ultrasound in the alcohol bath.

10. (currently amended) A method of producing a [[high]] gloss exterior finish on a hearing aid ear shell, the ear shell having a vent, comprising the steps of:

(a) pre-sizing the ear shell thickness to account for increased thickness added by steps ~~(b) through (f)~~ (c) through (g);

~~(b) coating the ear shell with a stereo lithography resin photo-curable polymer;~~

(b) manufacturing a hearing aid ear shell by stereolithographic processes; then

(c) without removing photo-curable polymer left on the ear shell, coating the ear shell with a photo-curable polymer, creating a new layer of photo-curable polymer;

[[(c)]] (d) permitting the photo-curable polymer to drain off the ear shell, leaving [[a thin]] an uncured layer on the ear shell;

[[(d)]] (e) exposing the ear shell to UV light to cure the [[thin]] uncured layer;

[[(e)]] (f) removing any excess of the photo-curable polymer; and

[[(f)]] (g) exposing the ear shell to UV light a second time.

11. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 11~~ claim 10, wherein the step [[(e)]] (f) is performed by rinsing the ear shell in an alcohol bath.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the step [[(e)]] (f) is performed with exposure of the ear shell to ultrasound in the alcohol bath.

13. (new) The method of claim 2, wherein the photo-curable polymer is the same as that used during stereolithography.